

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-13 (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended): A remote control server system for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected through a firewall to an external network, comprising:

a remote control server connected to the external network;

a wait state setting unit in the remote control server and configured to receive a command fetch request from said electronic equipment via said external network, and configured, if a command execution request from a user terminal corresponding to the command fetch request is not stored in the ~~remote~~ remote control server and after an evaluation of state information supplied from the electronic equipment, to set a wait state of the remote control server for the command execution request from the user terminal; and

a command execution request transmission unit in the remote control server and configured to receive a command execution request transmitted from said user terminal via said external network, and to transmit the command execution request to said electronic equipment as a response to the command fetch request set to said wait state.

15. (Previously Presented): The remote control server system according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a state information memory unit configured to receive and store the state information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network; and

a state information transmission unit configured to transmit the state information stored in said state information memory unit to said user terminal.

16. (Previously Presented): The remote control server system according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a state information memory unit configured to receive and store the state information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network;

a state information analysis unit configured to analyze the state information stored in said state information memory unit; and

an analysis results transmission unit configured to transmit analysis results from said state information analysis unit to said user terminal.

17. (Previously Presented): The remote control server system according to Claim 14, wherein said command execution request transmission unit, in cases where information pertaining to a command execution time period for said electronic equipment is contained in a command execution request received from said user terminal, is configured to transmit the command execution request at a time corresponding to the command execution time period when said electronic equipment has no time control function.

18. (Previously Presented): The remote control server system according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a unit configured to receive command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and to transmit the command execution results information to said user terminal as a response to the command execution request from the user terminal.

19. (Previously Presented): A remote control method for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected through a firewall to an external network, comprising:

receiving by a remote control server a command fetch request transmitted through said firewall from said electronic equipment via said external network, and if a command execution request from a user terminal corresponding to the command fetch request is not stored in a remote control server and after an evaluation of state information supplied from the electronic equipment, setting said remote control server to a wait state for the command execution request from the user terminal; and

receiving by said remote control server a command execution request transmitted from said user terminal via said external network, and

transmitting the command execution request from the remote control server to said electronic equipment as a response to the command fetch request set to said wait state.

20. (Previously Presented): The remote control method according to Claim 19, further comprising:

receiving command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and

transmitting the command execution results information to said user terminal as a response to the command execution request from the user terminal.

21. (Previously Presented): A computer program product, in a computer readable medium, including instructions executed by a computer for causing the computer to implement a method comprising:

receiving by a remote control server a command fetch request transmitted through said firewall from said electronic equipment via said external network, and if a command execution request from a user terminal corresponding to the command fetch request is not stored in a remote control server and after an evaluation of state information supplied from the electronic

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equipment, setting said remote control server to a wait state for the command execution request from the user terminal; and

receiving a command execution request transmitted from said user terminal via said external network, and

transmitting the command execution request from the remote control server to said electronic equipment.

22. (Previously Presented): The remote control program product according to Claim 21, the method further comprising:

receiving command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and

transmitting the command execution results information to said user terminal as a response to the command execution request from the user terminal.